

Message Text

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AMEMBASSY MADRID

S E C R E T BONN 12993

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MPOL, NATO, SP, GW

SUBJECT: SPAIN AND NATO: APPROACH TO FRG

REF: USNATO 4237

1. IN A CONVERSATION WITH THE FOREIGN OFFICE NATO DIRECTOR ON ANOTHER SUBJECT, WE WERE ADVISED THAT AN INSTRUCTION WAS BEING PREPARED FOR TRANSMISSION TO THE GERMAN NATO DELEGATION CONCERNING SPAIN AND THE FRG (REFTEL). WE WERE TOLD THAT THE INSTRUCTION WILL CONFIRM THE "GO SLOW" APPROACH TAKEN PREVIOUSLY BY THE FRG ON RELATIONS WITH SPAIN. THE GERMANS WILL POINT OUT THAT IT WOULD BE COUNTERPRODUCTIVE FROM BOTH AN ALLIANCE AND INTERNAL POLITICAL STANDPOINT TO PUSH THE SUBJECT OF COOPERATION WITH THE SPANISH.

2. THE OFFICIAL INDICATED, HOWEVER, THAT THE FRG WOULD CONTINUE TO TAKE SMALL STEPS IN DEVELOPING ITS RELATIONSHIP WITH SPAIN. IN THIS CONNECTION, HE CITED A RECENT VISIT BY SPANISH MILITARY ACADEMY OFFICERS TO THE FRG.

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